

641—73.5(135) Definitions.

“Applicant” means a person applying for the WIC program, but not yet a participant of the WIC program.

“Breastfeeding women” means women up to one year postpartum who are breastfeeding their infants.

“Certification” means the implementation of criteria and procedures to assess and document each applicant’s eligibility for the program.

“Children” means persons who have had their first birthday but have not yet attained their fifth birthday.

“Competent professional authority” or *“CPA”* means an individual on the staff of the contract agency who, using standardized WIC screening tools and eligibility criteria provided by the department, determines whether an applicant for WIC services is eligible to receive those services. A CPA shall be a member of one of the following categories:

1. A dietitian licensed by the Iowa board of dietetic examiners;
2. A nutrition educator as defined in the Iowa WIC Policy and Procedure Manual;
3. A physician, registered nurse or licensed physician assistant.

“Contract agency” means a private, nonprofit or public agency that has a contract with the department to provide WIC services and receives funds from the department for that purpose.

“Department” means the Iowa department of public health.

“Director” means the director of the Iowa department of public health.

“Division director” means the director of the division of health promotion and chronic disease prevention, Iowa department of public health.

“Family” means a group of related or nonrelated individuals who are living together as one economic unit, except that residents of a homeless facility or an institution shall not all be considered as members of a single family.

“Food instrument” means a voucher, check, coupon, electronic benefits transfer (EBT) card or any other document used to obtain supplemental foods.

“HAWK-I” means healthy and well kids in Iowa and is the health insurance program in Iowa, as authorized in Title XXI of the Social Security Act.

“Health professional” means an individual who is licensed to provide health care or social services within the individual’s scope of practice.

“Health services” means ongoing, routine pediatric and obstetric care (such as infant and child care and prenatal and postpartum examinations) or referral for treatment.

“Hearing officer” means the contract agency director, health professional, community leader or impartial citizen who is designated to hear the appeal of a participant, and is not to be confused with the statutory definition of a hearing officer, which is an administrative law judge.

“Infants” means persons under one year of age.

“Nutritional risk” means: (a) detrimental or abnormal nutritional conditions detectable by biochemical or anthropometric measurements; (b) other documented nutritionally related medical conditions; (c) dietary deficiencies that impair or endanger health; or (d) conditions that predispose persons to inadequate nutritional patterns or nutritionally related medical conditions.

“Nutrition education” means individual or group education sessions and the provision of information and educational materials designed to improve health status, achieve positive change in dietary habits, and emphasize relationships between nutrition and health, all in keeping with the individual’s personal, cultural, and socioeconomic preferences.

“Participants” means pregnant women, breastfeeding women, postpartum women, infants and children who are receiving supplemental foods under the program, and the breastfed infants of participant breastfeeding women.

“Peer group” means a system of grouping WIC vendors according to structure; type; number of cash registers; square footage; and sales. Peer groups are used to establish statistical norms that an individual store may be compared against and provide the numeric baselines for the process of determining what may be fraudulent behavior.

“Postpartum women” means women up to six months postpregnancy who are not breastfeeding.

“Pregnant women” means women determined to have one or more embryos or fetuses in utero.

“Program” means the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) authorized by Section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

“Vendor” means a retail outlet that provides supplemental food to WIC program participants.